

And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write....
.....I have a few things against thee,
because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel,
which calleth herself a prophetess,
to teach & to seduce my servants to commit fornication,
& to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
Revelation 2:18,20

The Wolves Among Us

This address to the church of Thyatira deals specifically with the issue of witchcraft in our churches. Jezebel was, of course, a witch. She was a Zidonian princess who married King Ahab of the Ephraimite line of kings that reigned in Samaria.

And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD
above all that were before him.
....he took to wife Jezebel
the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians,
& went & served Baal,
& worshipped him.
1Kings 16:31

What peace,
so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel
& her witchcrafts are so many?
2Kings 9:22

In the second letter I posted on this site, entitled 'Finding The Narrow Path', I touch briefly upon the fact that a growing number of people in contemporary churches who are claiming to be prophets of God Jehovah were at one time heavily involved in occult practice. This is especially true for those found in the charismatic churches.

There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof,
like a roaring lion ravening the prey;
they have devoured souls....
Ezekiel 22:25

This is by no means a minor issue given the fact that Christ clearly stated that Satan purposefully planted his own tares among God's wheat.

Christ speaking:
24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying,
The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man
which sowed good seed in his field:
25 But while men slept,
his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat,
and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up,
and brought forth fruit,
then appeared the tares also.
27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him,
Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field?
from **whence then hath it tares?**
28 He said unto them,
An enemy hath done this.
The servants said unto him,
Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?
29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares,
ye root up also the wheat with them.
30 **Let both grow together until the harvest:**
and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers,
Gather ye together first the tares,
and bind them in bundles to burn them:
but gather the wheat into my barn.
Matthew 13:24

Certainly planting agents among the genuine worshippers of God is a massive project. To what end? As I've stated elsewhere, the fact is that the trafficking of human souls is lucrative business for the enemies of God.

The following scriptures speak to 'the prince of Tyrus'
which many interpret to be an alias title for Lucifer:
3 Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel;
there is no secret that they can hide from thee:
4 With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches,
and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures:
5 **By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick**
hast thou increased thy riches,
and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches.
Ezekiel 28:3-5

The book of Ezekiel describes a device employed by the witch-hunters of souls prior to the Diaspora:

18 And say, Thus saith the Lord God;
Woe to the women that sew pillows to all armholes,
and make kerchiefs upon the head of every stature to hunt souls!
Will ye hunt the souls of my people,
and will ye save the souls alive that come unto you?
19 And will ye pollute me among my people
for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread,
to slay the souls that should not die,
and to save the souls alive that should not live,
by your lying to my people that hear your lies?
20 Wherefore thus saith the Lord God;
Behold, I am against your pillows,
wherewith ye there hunt the souls to make them fly,

and I will tear them from your arms,
and will let the souls go,
even the souls that ye hunt to make them fly.
21 Your kerchiefs also will I tear,
and deliver my people out of your hand,
and they shall be no more in your hand to be hunted;
and ye shall know that I am the Lord.
22 Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad,
whom I have not made sad;
and strengthened the hands of the wicked,
that he should not return from his wicked way,
by promising him life:
23 Therefore ye shall see no more vanity,
nor divine divinations:
for I will deliver my people out of your hand:
and ye shall know that I am the Lord.
Ezekiel 13:18-23

Lesson to be learned: Accept no gifts, including garments.

Naturally, churches are fertile hunting ground where are found those emotionally vulnerable souls who haven't studied the Word or, worse, who haven't read the Word with the understanding required to identify false doctrine. In 'Strategy: Seduction' I discuss more of the particulars of this predator-prey relationship & provide a lengthy list of scriptural corroboration.

The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding
shall remain in the congregation of the dead.
Proverbs 21:16

For such are false apostles,
deceitful workers,
transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
14 And no marvel;
for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
2Corinthians 11:13-14